

From: Jim Hefferon
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

These are my comments as to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft case.

The entire settlement can only be considered a giveaway to an organization whose anti-competitive actions have been established to the satisfaction of two Federal courts.

However, the portions in Section III(J)(2) and in Section III(D) that require only that Microsoft disclose the technical specifications to commercial enterprises (and where determining the definition of `commercial' is up to Microsoft) is an outrage.

As Professor L Lessig has demonstrated, it is the use of open protocols and systems that has allowed the Internet to exist and to grow. This proposed settlement is a sad step backward.

I strongly urge that the settlement be scrapped.

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